

## 2075.0 - Census of Population and Housing - Counts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2011

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## Summary

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## Introduction

### INTRODUCTION

This publication presents counts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. In addition to national and state/territory counts, this publication presents 2011 Census counts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples at geographies below state and territory. An explanation of Census geographies is in the [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\)](#).

The five-yearly [Census of Population and Housing](#) is the only comprehensive source of small area data about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. The Census provides a wide range of socioeconomic indicators to support planning, administration, policy development and evaluation in the public and private sectors.

The Estimated Resident Population (ERP) is the official measure of the population of Australia. The Census counts presented in this publication are adjusted in the compilation of the Estimated Resident Population for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. For more information on population estimates see paragraphs 21–24 of the [Explanatory Notes](#).

## 2011 Census Counts — Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS — ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES

In 2011, there were 548,370 people identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin and counted in the Census.

Of these people, 90% were of Aboriginal origin only, 6% were of Torres Strait Islander origin only and 4% identified as being of both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin. These proportions have changed very little in the last ten year period.

In the Northern Territory, just under 27% of the population identified and were counted as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin in the 2011 Census. In all other jurisdictions, 4% or less of the population were of

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin. Victoria has the lowest proportion at 0.7% of the state total.

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS(a) — Indigenous Status by State and Territory

State/Territory	INDIGENOUS STATUS		PROPORTION OF POPULATION			
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples		Non-Indigenous	Status not stated	Total	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
	no.	%	no.	no.	no.	%
New South Wales	172 624	31.5	6 402 111	342 923	6 917 658	2.5
Victoria	37 991	6.9	5 069 156	246 893	5 354 040	0.7
Queensland	155 825	28.4	3 952 706	224 206	4 332 737	3.6
South Australia	30 431	5.5	1 503 205	62 934	1 596 570	1.9
Western Australia	69 665	12.7	2 038 786	130 719	2 239 170	3.1
Tasmania	19 625	3.6	456 345	19 380	495 350	4.0
Northern Territory	56 779	10.4	137 774	17 391	211 944	26.8
Australian Capital Territory	5 184	0.9	338 030	14 005	357 219	1.5
<b>Australia(b)</b>	<b>548 370</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>19 900 764</b>	<b>1 058 586</b>	<b>21 507 719</b>	<b>2.5</b>

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Other Territories, comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).

### CAPITAL CITIES AND REST OF STATE

In the 2011 Census, one-third (33%) of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population lived in Capital City areas.

States with relatively high proportions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Capital Cities include South Australia (51%) and Victoria (47%). In contrast, 80% of the population who both identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin and who were counted in the Northern Territory lived outside the Capital City area.

Likewise, in Queensland, 73% of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population lived outside the Capital City area.

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS — Indigenous status by Capital City and Rest of State(a)

Capital City/Rest of State	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples	Non-Indigenous	Status not stated	Total peoples	Proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples within Capital City/Rest of State Areas
	no.	no.	no.	no.	%
<b>NSW</b>					
Greater Sydney	54 746	4 105 767	231 160	4 391 673	31.7
Rest of State	116 961	2 285 568	110 423	2 512 952	67.8
No Usual Address	915	10 673	1 330	12 918	0.5
Total NSW	172 622	6 402 112	342 923	6 917 657	100.0
<b>Vic</b>					
Greater Melbourne	18 023	3 791 940	190 019	3 999 982	47.4
Rest of State	19 683	1 269 936	56 096	1 345 715	51.8
No Usual Address	284	7 245	777	8 306	0.7
Total Vic.	37 990	5 069 155	246 895	5 354 040	100.0
<b>Qld</b>					
Greater Brisbane	41 904	1 931 741	92 353	2 065 998	26.9
Rest of State	113 188	2 009 949	130 585	2 253 722	72.6
No Usual Address	721	10 628	1 194	12 543	0.5
Total Qld	155 825	3 952 707	224 205	4 332 737	100.0

<b>SA</b>					
Greater Adelaide	15 597	1 162 524	47 113	1 225 234	51.3
Rest of State	14 671	338 005	15 584	368 260	48.2
No Usual Address	165	2 668	236	3 069	0.5
Total SA	30 433	1 503 203	62 933	1 596 569	100.0
<b>WA</b>					
Greater Perth	27 103	1 610 150	91 612	1 728 865	38.9
Rest of State	42 101	422 197	38 296	502 594	60.4
No Usual Address	455	6 100	742	7 297	0.7
Total WA	69 666	2 038 786	130 718	2 239 170	100.0
<b>Tas</b>					
Greater Hobart	6 895	196 199	8 561	211 655	35.1
Rest of State	12 650	259 118	10 742	282 510	64.5
No Usual Address	74	929	69	1 072	0.4
Total Tas.	19 626	456 346	19 379	495 351	100.0
<b>NT</b>					
Greater Darwin	11 101	97 260	12 225	120 586	19.6
Rest of Territory	45 541	38 912	4 923	89 376	80.2
No Usual Address	133	1 510	230	1 873	0.2
Total NT	56 778	137 773	17 393	211 944	100.0
<b>ACT</b>					
Australian Capital Territory	5 157	337 460	13 969	356 586	99.5
No Usual Address	26	570	35	631	0.5
Total ACT	5 186	338 030	14 004	357 220	100.0
<b>Australia(c)</b>	<b>548 370</b>	<b>19 900 762</b>	<b>1 058 586</b>	<b>21 507 719</b>	

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Other Territories, comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).

## AGE PROFILE

In the 2011 Census, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population had a younger age distribution than the non-Indigenous population, reflecting higher fertility and lower life expectancy. The median age (the age at which half the population is older and half the population is younger) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples was 21 years compared with 37 years of age for non-Indigenous people. The Northern Territory had the highest median age (23 years) for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Queensland had the lowest median age (20 years).

Nationally, more than one in three Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were under 15 years of age (36%), while 4% were aged 65 years and over. The age profile of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait population varied only slightly between the states and territories. Queensland had the highest proportion of children aged under 15 years (38%). Tasmania had the highest proportion of older peoples aged 65 years and over (5%).

### 2011 CENSUS COUNT — ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES(a) – Age by State and Territory

State/Territory	Total no.	People aged 0–14 %	People aged 15–64 %	People aged 65 and over %	Median age years
New South Wales	172 624	36.3	59.5	4.2	21
Victoria	37 991	35.2	60.5	4.3	22
Queensland	155 825	37.5	59.1	3.4	20
South Australia	30 431	34.7	61.2	4.1	22
Western Australia	69 665	35.2	61.4	3.3	22
Tasmania	19 625	35.3	60.2	4.5	22
Northern Territory	56 779	33.2	63.4	3.4	23
Australian Capital Territory	5 184	32.6	65.3	2.1	22
<b>Australia(b)</b>	<b>548 370</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>60.3</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>21</b>

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes Other Territories, comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).

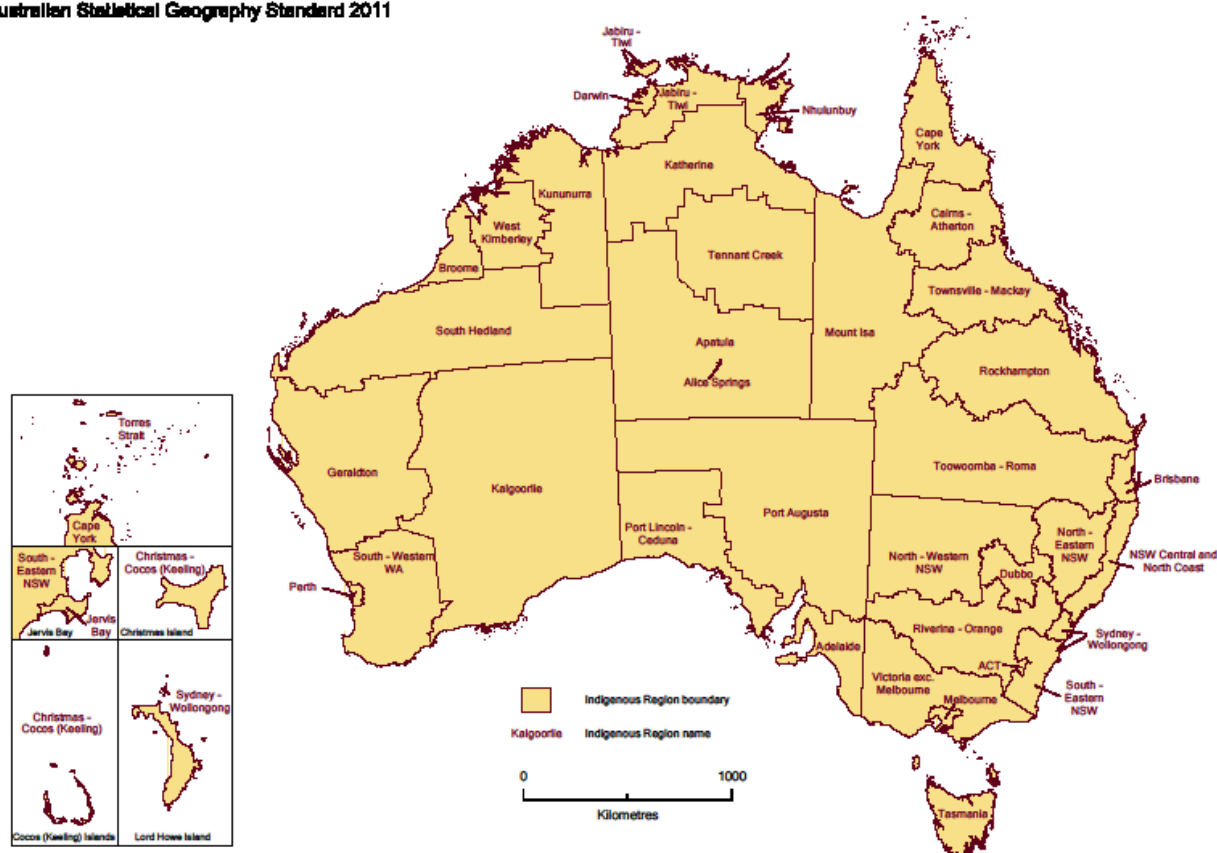
# 2011 Census Counts — Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples in Indigenous Regions

## 2011 CENSUS COUNTS — ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES IN INDIGENOUS REGIONS

The Indigenous Structure of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) provides a geographical standard for the publication of statistics about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Australia. Indigenous Regions (IREGs) are the highest level of the Indigenous Structure and are loosely based on the former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) boundaries. IREGs are divided into Indigenous Areas (IAREs) (the second level of the Indigenous Structure) and these are then divided into smaller units known as Indigenous Locations (ILOCs), the third and lowest level of the Indigenous Structure.

### Indigenous Regions

Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2011



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In the 2011 Census, over half (53%) of the people who identified as being of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin and counted in the Census lived in nine of the 57 Indigenous Regions. The three largest regions were located on the eastern seaboard of Australia: Brisbane (53,271), NSW Central and North Coast (52,319) and Sydney - Wollongong (52,171). These three regions accounted for 29% (157,761 of 548,370) of the total Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander count for Australia.

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS — ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES(a) – Indigenous Regions with largest counts

		Proportion of population – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples
Indigenous Regions	no.	%
Brisbane	53 271	9.7
NSW Central and North Coast	52 319	9.5
Sydney - Wollongong	52 171	9.5

Perth	25 534	4.7
Cairns - Atherton	23 466	4.3
Townsville - Mackay	22 538	4.1
Adelaide	20 761	3.8
Riverina - Orange	20 172	3.7
Victoria (exc. Melbourne)	20 122	3.7
Tasmania	19 546	3.6
<b>Australia(b)</b>	<b>548 370</b>	<b>2.5</b>

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes all Indigenous Regions.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).

The Indigenous Regions with the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were outside major population centres.

These regions, with the exception of Jervis Bay in New South Wales, are located in the northern part of Australia.

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS — ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES(a) – Indigenous Regions with highest proportions

Indigenous Regions	Proportion of total population for Indigenous Region	
	no.	%
Torres Strait	5 922	79.1
Apatula	8 374	76.9
Jabiru - Tiwi	10 379	76.7
Tennant Creek	3 684	64.4
Nhulunbuy	9 259	62.9
Jervis Bay	224	59.6
Cape York	8 565	55.6
Katherine	8 637	50.4
Kununurra	5 505	48.4
West Kimberley	4 044	48.1
<b>Australia(b)</b>	<b>548 370</b>	<b>2.5</b>

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes all Indigenous Regions.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).

### INDIGENOUS AREAS

In the 2011 Census, with the exception of Fitzroy River (Western Australia), the ten Indigenous Areas with the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were in the Northern Territory and Queensland. The Indigenous Area of Laynhapuy - Gumatj Homelands in eastern Arnhem Land had the highest proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (98%), followed by the Indigenous Areas of Cherbourg and Yarrabah (both 97%), two discrete communities in Queensland.

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS —ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES(a) – Indigenous Areas with highest proportions

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES		
Indigenous Areas	Count in Indigenous Area	Proportion in Indigenous Area
	no.	%
Laynhapuy - Gumatj Homelands	627	98.1
Cherbourg	1 192	97.4
Yarrabah	2 341	97.3
Alice Springs Town Camps	881	97.1
Fitzroy River	1 023	94.7
Gapuwiyak and Outstations	990	94.7
Urapuntja	659	94.4
Kulkalgal - Central Islands	900	94.2
Alpururulam	416	94.1
Palm Island	2 202	94.1
<b>Total Australia(b)</b>	<b>548 370</b>	<b>2.5</b>

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Includes all Indigenous Areas.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: [Census Dictionary, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2901.0).

## 2011 Census Counts — Torres Strait Islander People

### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS — TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE

In the 2011 Census, 52 616 people identified as being of Torres Strait Islander origin (including people identified as being both Torres Strait Islander and Aboriginal origin), were counted in the Census. Of these, almost two-thirds (63%) lived in Queensland.

#### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS(a) — People of Torres Strait Islander Origin(b)

State/Territory	Torres Strait Islander people		Proportion of State/Territory population
	no.	%	%
New South Wales	8 011	15.2	0.1
Victoria	3 044	5.8	0.1
Queensland	32 929	62.6	0.8
South Australia	1 599	3.0	0.1
Western Australia	2 608	5.0	0.1
Tasmania	1 886	3.6	0.4
Northern Territory	2 206	4.2	1.0
Australian Capital Territory	326	0.6	0.1
Other Territories	7	0.0	0.2
<b>Australia(c)</b>	<b>52 616</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) Comprises people who are Torres Strait Islander and both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in origin.

(c) Includes Other Territories, comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between due to introduced random standard error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: [Census Dictionary, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2901.0).

The Indigenous Regions with the largest count of people identifying as Torres Strait Islander origin were Cairns–Atherton (8,120 or 15% of the Torres Strait Islander population), Brisbane (6,385 or 12% of the Torres Strait Islander population) and Townsville–Mackay (6,209 or 12% of the Torres Strait Islander population).

In the Torres Strait Indigenous Region there were 5,787 people of Torres Strait Islander origin, representing 77% of the population for the region. Within this region, the Indigenous Locations with the largest populations of Torres Strait Islander people were Port Kennedy and TRAWQ (Tamoi, Rose Hill, Applin, Wyborn and Quarantine) (839 and 784 respectively), followed by Badu Island (696) and Saibai Island (351).

The Indigenous Location of Manunda - Portsmouth in Cairns had the largest number of Torres Strait Islander people (2,474), followed by Townsville (1,567) and Mackay (1,533). Of the 20 most populous Indigenous Locations for Torres Strait Islander people, 19 were within Queensland.

#### 2011 CENSUS COUNTS(a) — Indigenous Locations(b) – Largest Torres Strait Islander Counts

Indigenous Locations	TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE(c)	
	Count in Indigenous Location no.	Proportion in Indigenous Location %
Manunda - Portsmouth	2 474	11.2
Townsville	1 567	1.6
Mackay	1 533	1.9
Thuringowa	1 212	1.9
Edmonton	861	5.2
Port Kennedy (Thursday Island)	839	51.4
Bamaga and Surrounds	826	77.5
TRAWQ (Thursday Island)	784	80.2
Badu Island	696	89.0

(a) Usual residence Census counts, excludes overseas visitors.

(b) See ASGS Indigenous Structure - Fact Sheet.

(c) Comprises people who are Torres Strait Islander and both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander in origin.

(d) Includes Other Territories, comprising Jervis Bay Territory, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island.

Note: Totals and components may not be consistent within and between tables due to introduced random error to protect confidentiality of Census respondents.

See: Census Dictionary, 2011 (cat. no. 2901.0).

## About this Release

Presents counts for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing. First release (21/06/2012) will contain analysis and explanations regarding change in counts, and interpretation of data at national, state/territory and capital city/balance of state levels.

Second release (19/07/2012) will contain data cubes for the Indigenous geography.

This product was previously registered as 4705.0.

## History of Changes

**22/08/2012** - An additional Excel datacube has been released to complement the original publication. The datacube presents 2011 Census counts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by Commonwealth Electoral Divisions.

**10/08/2012** - Replacement pages were added to this publication on 10 August 2012. Changes to the first issue include:

- Updating broken or incorrect links within the publication
- Correcting any formatting errors within the publication
- Correcting the formatting of two datacubes from the first issue: Table 01 and Table 02.

No other changes were made to data, commentary or content. Users who have stored previous versions of the two datacubes may continue to use them.

**19/07/2012** - An additional 11 Excel datacubes have been released to complement the original publication. The datacubes present 2011 Census counts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by the Australian Statistical Geographic Standard (ASGS), Indigenous Structure.

This release also provides 2006 - 2011 time-series Census counts of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people by Indigenous Region, and Torres Strait Islander people counts for Queensland and the Torres Strait.

## Explanatory Notes

### Explanatory Notes

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents counts from the 2011 Census of Population and Housing for people who both identified as being of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin and were counted in the Census.

**2** The 2011 Census of Population and Housing was held on 9 August 2011. The objective of the Census is to accurately measure the number and key characteristics of people in Australia and the dwellings in which they live, on Census Night. This provides a reliable basis for the estimation of the population of each of the states, territories and local government areas primarily for electoral purposes and the distribution of government funds. It also provides information about the characteristics of the population and its housing within small geographic areas and for small population groups. Census data supports a range of planning, administration, policy development and evaluation activities of government and other data users.

## INDIGENOUS STATUS

**3** The question about Indigenous status on the Census form asks whether each person is of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origins. The 1996 Census was the first Census to allow people's origins to be recorded as both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander; prior to this, only one or the other could be recorded. This question format has been repeated in subsequent Censuses, including the 2011 Census.

**4** For more information on definitional changes and Census questions, refer to the [Census Dictionary, 2011 \(cat. no. 2901.0\)](#).

## SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**5** The 2011 Census of Population and Housing was held on 9 August 2011. Australia's first national Census was held in 1911 and since 1961 a Census has been taken every five years, the frequency specified in the **Census and Statistics Act (1905)**. The objective of the Census is to count the number of people in Australia on Census Night, identifying their key characteristics and those of the dwellings in which they live.

**6** Following changes to the Australian Constitution as a result of the 1967 Referendum, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were included in official estimates of the Australian population. As a consequence, from the 1976 Census onwards, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has developed and improved strategies to count the Indigenous population throughout Australia.

**7** The Census aims to count every person who spent Census Night in Australia. This includes Australian residents in Antarctica and Other Territories—Jervis Bay, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and Christmas Island. The other Australian External Territories (Norfolk Island and minor islands such as Heard and McDonald Islands), are outside the scope of the Australian Census. The only people who are excluded from the Census are foreign diplomats and their families.

**8** The Census includes people on vessels in or between Australian ports as well as people on board long distance trains, buses or aircraft. Also included are those people outside Australia who are not required to undertake migration formalities, such as those on oil and gas rigs or on Australian Antarctic bases. People entering Australia before midnight on Census Night are counted, while people leaving an Australian port for an overseas destination before midnight on Census Night are not. Visitors to Australia are included regardless of how long they have been in the country or how long they plan to stay. However, for people who intend to be in Australia for less than 12 months, only basic demographic data are available. The Census includes homeless people and people camping out.

**9** All occupied dwellings are counted in the Census with the exception of diplomatic dwellings. Unoccupied private dwellings are also counted, with the exception of unoccupied dwellings in caravan parks, marinas and manufactured home estates (self-contained dwellings that are built off-site and then transported to the estate for installation). Unoccupied residences of owners, managers or caretakers of such establishments are counted.

## ENUMERATION PROCEDURES

**10** In order to achieve the most accurate count of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Census, the ABS developed an Indigenous Enumeration Strategy. This Strategy was first introduced in the 1976 Census for remote areas of WA and NT, and has been expanded and improved for subsequent Censuses. This strategy aims to be culturally appropriate and to raise the quality of the Census counts for this population group.

**11** The 2011 Census Indigenous Enumeration Strategy incorporated improvements to enumeration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in urban areas, as well as those living in remote Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. At a broad level, the improvements for the 2011 Census included:

- earlier and ongoing engagement;
- a reduction in the overall enumeration period for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities;
- an increase in the number of field staff recruited; and
- a greater level of support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people requiring assistance in completing their form, in both urban and remote areas.

**12** In the majority of discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, an interview approach was used, with local people employed and trained to conduct the interviews.

**13** In pre-identified urban areas increased support and assistance were provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, including the option of collecting Census information through an interview.

**14** For more information on the Indigenous Enumeration Strategy refer to 2011 Census Fact sheet - [Enumeration Procedures for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples](#) available on the ABS website, and Information Paper:



2011 Census Special Enumeration Strategies (cat. no. 2911.0.55.004) which is expected to be released in July 2012.

## LIMITATIONS OF CENSUS DATA

**15** There are four principal sources of error in Census data: respondent error, processing error, partial response and undercount. Quality assurance processes in the Census program aim to reduce error as much as possible, and to provide a measure of the remaining error to data users, to allow them to use the data in an informed way.

**16** The [Census Dictionary, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2901.0) provides more information on [managing census quality](#).

## DATA PRESENTATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

**17** The proportions of the population shown in the tables in this publication include 'not stated' responses in the denominator. For example, the proportion of people in Australia who are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin would be calculated by dividing the number of persons identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander origin by the total population, and expressing the result as a percentage. The 'total population' includes records coded to 'not stated'.

**18** The Census counts presented in this publication are based on Usual Residence. For information on [Usual Residence](#) and [Place of Enumeration](#) refer to the [Census Dictionary, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2901.0).

**19** Under the **Census and Statistics Act (1905)** it is an offence to release any information collected under the Act that is likely to enable identification of any particular individual or organisation. Introduced random error is used to ensure that no data are released which could risk the identification of individuals in the statistics.

**20** Care is taken in the specification of tables to minimise the risk of identifying individuals. In addition, a technique has been developed to randomly adjust cell values. Random adjustment of the data is considered to be the most satisfactory technique for avoiding the release of Census data that may identify individuals. When the technique is applied, all cells are adjusted to prevent any such data being exposed. These adjustments result in small introduced random errors. However, the information value of the table as a whole is not impaired. For more detail refer to [Introduced random error](#) in the [Census Dictionary, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2901.0).

## POPULATION ESTIMATES

**21** Estimated Resident Population (ERP) is the official measure of the population of Australia. It is based on the concept of [Usual Residence](#). It refers to all people, regardless of nationality, citizenship or legal status, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 months. In the compilation of the ERP, important adjustments are made to the Census count based on place of usual residence. For further information regarding ERP, see [Census Dictionary, 2011](#) (cat. no. 2901.0).

**22** The [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) (ABS) has an established program of demographic statistics about [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples](#), and is currently undertaking a program of work based on results of the 2011 Census of Population and Housing and the 2011 Census [Post Enumeration Survey](#) (PES) to compile and release estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population as at 30 June 2011.

**23** ABS will publish preliminary estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population as at 30 June 2011 in *Australian Demographic Statistics* (cat. no. 3101.0) from the March quarter 2012 issue, released 27 September 2012. These preliminary estimates will be published by five year age groups, sex and state/territory of usual residence. Further disaggregation will be available when the final estimates of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population for 30 June 2011 are published in *Population Estimates, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2011* (cat. no. 3238.0.55.001), scheduled for release in August 2013.

**24** For further information regarding this work program see [3238.0.55.003 - Information Paper: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Demographic Statistics Work Program and Release Plan, Apr 2012](#).

## RELATED INFORMATION

**25** Additional information on data quality in the Census is available on the [ABS website](#) and the [Census portal](#). Specific information on Census 2011 [Data Quality](#), non-response rates, and conceptual and data issues can also be found on the Census portal.

**26** Further information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander statistics from the 2011 Census will be included in forthcoming ABS publications.

# Data Quality Declaration

## 2011 Census of Population and Housing — Quality declaration

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